

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-8, 10-18, and 20-30 are pending in the application, with 1, 12 and 24 being the independent claims. Claims 9 and 19 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. No new claims are sought to be added. Claims 1 and 12 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 7, 8, 12, 18, 20 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,438,123 ("Chapman Patent"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 has been amended herein to include the subject matter of claim 9, which included the element of "wherein said descriptor table includes a parser specification sub-table, an expansion sub-table and a mask specification sub-table." When discussing claim 9 in the Office Action, the Examiner has noted that the Chapman Patent does not teach, disclose or suggest this element. For at least this reason, amended claim 1 is allowable over the Chapman Patent.

Similarly, independent claim 12 has been amended Claim 1 has been amended herein to include the subject matter of claim 19, which included the element of "wherein said

descriptor table includes a parser specification sub-table, an expansion sub-table and a mask specification sub-table." When discussing claim 19 in the Office Action, the Examiner has noted that the Chapman Patent does not teach, disclose or suggest this element. For at least this reason, amended claim 12 is allowable over the Chapman Patent.

The Examiner has asserted that U.S. Published Patent Application 2002/0065907 ("Cloonan Patent Application") discloses the element of wherein said descriptor table includes a parser specification sub-table, an expansion sub-table and a mask specification sub-table." Applicants respectfully disagree. The Examiner relies on paragraph 0136 and table 1207 within FIG. 12 of the Cloonan Patent Application to support the Examiner's assertion. Paragraph 0136 states the following:

[0136] The DSxPHSRef, DSxPHSSeq, DSxPHSStatus, DSxPHSDirection, DSxPHSPktClassId, and DSxPHSChgAction fields correspond to the DsxPktClassRef, DsxPktClassSeq, DsxPktClassStatus, DsxPktClassDirection, DsxPktClassId, and DsxPktClassChgAction, respectively, described with reference to the packet classifier table 1203 above, and thus will not be discussed in detail. The DSxPHSField field is a PHS rule characteristic field that defines the bytes of the header that are to be suppressed and restored, while the DSxPHSMask is a PHS rule characteristic field that defines the bit mask that indicates which bytes of the header that are to be suppressed and restored. The DSxPHSSize field is also a PHS rule characteristic field that defines the number of bytes of the header that are to be suppressed and restored, and the DSxPHSVerify field is a PHS rule characteristic field that defines the payload header suppression verification value.

The Cloonan Patent Application simply identifies the bytes to be suppressed and a bit mask for suppression. By contrast, claim 1 and claim 12 of the present application define a parser specification sub-table that provides much greater flexibility for suppression. The parser specification sub-table, for example, includes flags that enable hardware to parse the reconstructed packet appropriately. Present Application at [0041]. For at least this reason, claims 1 and 12 are patentable over the Chapman Patent and the Cloonan Patent Application. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Because each dependent claim incorporates all of the elements of the independent claim from which it depends, as well as additional features, the above arguments made with respect to independent claims 1 and 12 apply a fortiori to claims 2-8, and 10-11 which depend on claim 1, and claims 13-18 and 20-23, which depend on claim 12. For at least this reason, dependent claims 2-8, 10-11, 13-18 and 20-23 are also patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-6 and 13-17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Chapman Patent. Applicants respectfully traverse. Based on the arguments presented above, claims 2-6 and 13-17 are patentable over the Chapman Patent. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-11, 19, 22 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by the Chapman Patent in view of U.S. Published Patent Application 2002/0065907 ("Cloonan Published Patent Application"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Based on the arguments presented above, claims 10-11, 22 and 23 are patentable over the Chapman Patent in view of the Cloonan Patent Application. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants extend their appreciation to the Examiner for the Examiner's early indication of allowable subject matter in claims 24-30.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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